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GOVERNOR

State of New Mexico
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

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ENTERED



RON CURRY
SECRETARY

DERRITH WATCHMAN-MOORE
DEPUTY SECRETARY

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

August 27, 2004

R. Paul Detwiler, Acting Manager
Carlsbad Field Office
Department of Energy
P.O. Box 3090
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221-3090

Dr. Steven Warren, President
Washington TRU Solutions LLC
P.O. Box 2078
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221-5608

**RE: NMED APPROVAL OF THE ROCKY FLATS ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY SITE FINAL
AUDIT REPORT, AUDIT A-04-10
WASTE ISOLATION PILOT PLANT
EPA I.D. NUMBER NM4890139088**

Dear Mr. Detwiler and Dr. Warren:

On April 30, 2004, the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) received the Final Audit Report of the Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site (RFETS) Audit Number A-04-10 (Audit Report), from the Department of Energy's Carlsbad Field Office (CBFO). CBFO and Washington TRU Solutions LLC (the Permittees) were required to submit this Audit Report under the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) Hazardous Waste Facility Permit as specified in Permit Condition II.C.2.c. The intended scope of this annual recertification audit was to ensure the continued adequacy, implementation, and effectiveness of the RFETS waste characterization processes for retrievably stored and repackaged debris and homogeneous solids contact-handled waste relative to the requirements of the WIPP Permit. The audit also included Summary Category Group S4000 (Soils and Gravels), for the first time at any site. The initial Audit Report consisted of the following items:

- A narrative report
- Completed copies of relevant Permit Attachment B6 checklists
- Final RFETS standard operating procedures (hardcopy and electronic copy)
- Items corrected during the audit

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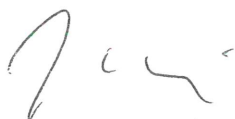
- Objective evidence examined during the audit
 - General information
 - Solids and soils/gravel sampling
 - Acceptable knowledge
 - Headspace gas
 - Real time radiography
 - Visual examination

On July 6, 2004, NMED provided the Permittees with comments on the initial Audit Report, noting that it was incomplete due to the exclusion of certain elements that had originally been within the scope of the audit. On July 16, 2004, NMED received the Permittees' response to comments in a transmittal dated July 14, 2004, which included a revised Final Audit Report, revised B6 checklists, and additional standard operating procedures.

NMED concludes that the revised Audit Report demonstrates that RFETS has adequately implemented the applicable characterization requirements of the WAP. Therefore, NMED approves the Permittees' Final Audit Report for RFETS Audit A-04-10 for the certification of retrievably stored and repackaged debris, soils/gravels, and homogeneous solids contact-handled waste, and amends previous Audit Report approvals for Audits A-03-03, A-03-22, and A-04-08 issued by NMED on September 18, 2003, December 23, 2003, and July 2, 2004 respectively, to include all waste forms and processes evaluated by this recertification audit.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Steve Zappe at (505) 428-2517.

Sincerely,



James P. Bearzi
Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

JPB:soz

cc: Charles Lundstrom, NMED WWMD
Steve Zappe, NMED HWB
Tracy Hughes, NMED OGC
Howard Roitman, CDPHE HMWMD
Laurie King, EPA Region 6
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